



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Amendment**

LCO No. 4595

**\*SB0003104595SR0\***

Offered by:

SEN. MCKINNEY, 28<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 31

File No. 21

Cal. No. 45

**"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
THE GOVERNOR CONCERNING THE EDUCATIONAL  
PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 14-275 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) The term "school bus" means any motor bus painted,  
6 constructed, equipped and registered as hereinafter provided, which is  
7 regularly used for transporting school children to and from school or  
8 school activities whether or not for compensation or under contract to  
9 provide such service. No vehicle shall be registered as a school bus  
10 unless it complies with all requirements of sections 14-275 to 14-281,  
11 inclusive, as to color, markings, equipment and inspection, and each  
12 such vehicle shall be inspected prior to such registration in accordance  
13 with regulations prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

14 The commissioner or the commissioner's designee may also conduct  
15 random, unannounced inspections of any registered school bus. Any  
16 school bus that transports individuals in wheelchairs shall meet the  
17 requirements of subsection (e) of section 14-100a in order to pass  
18 inspection. The provisions of said sections requiring other vehicles to  
19 stop at the signal of the operator of a registered school bus shall not  
20 apply to a signal by the operator of any vehicle not registered as a  
21 school bus and not complying with all requirements for such  
22 registration.

23 (b) Each school bus shall be painted a uniform yellow color known  
24 as "National School Bus Glossy Yellow", except for the fenders and  
25 trim which may be painted black and the roof which may be painted  
26 white, and shall have conspicuously painted on the rear and on the  
27 front thereof, in black lettering of a size to be determined by the  
28 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, the words "School Bus-Stop on  
29 Signal", except that each school bus equipped with an eight-light  
30 warning system shall have the words "School Bus" painted on the rear  
31 and on the front thereof in such lettering. The sides of such vehicles  
32 may be inscribed with the words "School Bus", the school name or such  
33 other legend or device as may be necessary for purposes of  
34 identification or safety. Each school bus shall have conspicuously  
35 painted on the rear and sides of such vehicles, in black lettering of a  
36 size to be determined by the commissioner, the name of the school bus  
37 company, the school bus company's telephone number and the school  
38 bus number.

39 (c) Each school bus shall be equipped with special automatic,  
40 electrically-operated flashing stop signals, which shall be independent  
41 and separate from the braking, stop and tail lights of standard  
42 equipment. Such flashing lights may include automatic traffic  
43 signalling devices showing red and amber lights and shall be so  
44 located that adequate warning will be afforded to both oncoming and  
45 overtaking traffic, except that each school bus manufactured on and  
46 after October 1, 1984, and registered for use in this state shall be  
47 equipped with an eight-light warning system, showing two red

48 flashing stop signals and two amber flashing warning signals on the  
49 front and rear of the bus, and a stop semaphore. The commissioner  
50 may adopt standards for an eight-light warning system and standards  
51 and specifications for the construction of school buses and for  
52 equipment to be maintained on school buses consistent with the  
53 provisions of sections 14-275 to 14-281, inclusive. Both public and  
54 private owners of school buses shall maintain a record of such kinds of  
55 repairs made to such buses as the commissioner may require and such  
56 work record shall be available at all times to the commissioner and the  
57 commissioner's designated assistants. All such maintenance records  
58 shall be retained for a period of two years. Each school bus shall be  
59 equipped with emergency lighting equipment as provided by section  
60 14-97a, with a defrosting device as provided by section 14-97, with a  
61 system of mirrors as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations Title  
62 49, Section 571.111, as amended, or with an outside mirror as provided  
63 by section 14-99 and a system of crossover mirrors designed and  
64 mounted so as to give the driver a view of the road from the front  
65 bumper forward to a point where direct observation is possible and  
66 along the left and right sides of the bus, with a signalling device as  
67 provided by section 14-101, and with chain nonskid devices for  
68 immediate use on at least one outside or inside rear tire on each side or  
69 tires designed to prevent skidding on all rear wheels when weather  
70 and highway conditions require such use. Commencing February 1,  
71 1974, each new school bus with a vehicle air brake system shall be so  
72 equipped that the brake system is operated from a separate air  
73 reservoir tank other than the air reservoir tank used to operate any  
74 other compressed air or vacuum operated devices with which the  
75 school bus may be equipped. Commencing January 1, 2011, each  
76 school bus shall be equipped with lap/shoulder (3-point) seat safety  
77 belts. The seating requirements of section 14-273 shall be observed.  
78 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-98, school buses may be  
79 equipped with tires incorporating a metal nonskid device during the  
80 period from October fifteenth to April thirtieth, inclusive. Each school  
81 bus that is model year 2007 or newer shall be equipped with a crossing  
82 control arm mounted on the right end of the front bumper. The

83 commissioner shall establish additional standards and requirements  
84 for such devices in regulations adopted in accordance with the  
85 provisions of chapter 54.

86 (d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a  
87 first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction, and for each  
88 subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor  
89 more than five hundred dollars. The commissioner shall suspend the  
90 registration of any school bus not equipped with seat safety belts, as  
91 required by subsection (c) of this section, until seat safety belts have  
92 been installed."